



Welcome Home

St. Mark's Episcopal Church: A Community of Grace

We spread God's word, love like Jesus, enjoy worshipping together, and help our neighbors.



Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, July 26, 2026

Welcome Home We are glad you are here to join us for worship and to share in the inclusive, reckless, extravagant love of God. Please fill out a Connect Card; join us for refreshments after the service; and visit our website at stmarks-upland.org.

Children & Youth Have a Place Here Children's Chapel for children ages 3-12 featuring Catechesis of the Good Shepherd and Godly Play takes place in the chapel next to the south side of the altar at 9:50AM on Sundays. Youth for Christ for young people in grades 6-12 resumes in September.

Good News

Aug 1: Deanery 6 Reception for New Bishop – All Welcome!

Learn ASL at 9AM through Aug 2

Centering Prayer, Wednesday evenings at 7PM

Book Club, Third Saturdays

Fiber Arts, Second Wednesdays

Bible Study resumes in September

Today's Ministers

Music: Choir, Ken Rudolf

Readers: (8AM) Larry S, Cheryl W
(10AM) Barbara M, Rosemary W,
Paul T

Eucharistic Ministers: (8AM) Dale B
(10AM) Dr. Jim B

Digital Ministry: Craig G, Paul S

Altar Guild: Kay A, Cheryl H,
Kathy O

Sextons: (8AM) Larry & Bively S
(10AM)

Hospitality: Violeta & Michael M
Ablution Guild: Kathy B

Acknowledgements

Eucharistic Prayer A: Enriching our Worship 1; Psalm text, The Psalter for the Christian People;

Proper 12: 1 Kings 3:5-12; Psalm 119:129-136; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33,44-52

Prelude and Welcome (10AM): Please remain seated.

Aria for Organ

Camil Van Hulse

Entrance Hymn (10AM): Please rise in body or spirit.

Hymnal 686

Come thou font of every blessing

Nettleton

Opening Acclamation

Clergy: Blessed be our God.

Community: **For ever and ever. Amen.**

Kyrie (10AM) S-89

Kyrie eleison.

Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison.

Prayer of Preparation

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Centering Prayer and the Opening Prayer: Please be seated.

God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Take a deep breath. Notice God's presence and action around and within. When the time is right the Collect of the Day then "collects" our individual thoughts and prayers.

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

First Testament

A reading from the first book of Kings

At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

(8AM) Let us say the psalm responsively by half verse, up to the asterisk, alternating between the reader and the community beginning with the reader.

(10AM)

Robert Knox Kennedy
(b. 1945)



- ¹²⁹ Your decrees are / **wonderful**; *
therefore I obey them with all my / **heart**.
- ¹³⁰ When your word goes forth it gives / **light**; *
it gives understanding to the / **simple**.
- ¹³¹ I open my mouth and / **pant**; *
I long for your com- / **mandments**.
- ¹³² Turn to me in / **mercy**, *
as you always do to those who love your / **Name**.
- ¹³³ Steady my footsteps in your / **word**; *
let no iniquity have dominion / **over me**.
- ¹³⁴ Rescue me from those who op- / **press me**, *
and I will keep your com- / **mandments**.
- ¹³⁵ Let your countenance shine upon your / **servant** *
and teach me your / **statutes**.
- ¹³⁶ My eyes shed streams of / **tears**, *
because people do not keep your / **law**.

New Testament

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It

is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn (10AM)

Hymnal 458 v. 1, 2, 7 *My song is love unknown*

Love Unknown

Gospel: Please rise in body or spirit

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

“Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be

at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

The Gospel of our Savior. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon: At the invitation of the preacher, please be seated.

Rev. Julia Warren

The Nicene Creed: Please rise in body or spirit

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Clergy: Let us pray for the Church and for the world. (Silence)

Leader: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for peace and justice for the people of Iran, Haiti, and the Holy Land; and for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight.

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

When the time is right, the clergy offers a closing prayer.

Confession and Absolution of Sin

Clergy: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. (Silence)

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

Clergy (*this or similar*): Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace: Please rise in body or spirit.

The peace of Christ be always with you. **And also with you.**

Everyone's space and sensitivities are respected. When someone offers their elbow, fist, or a peace sign, we respond appropriately.

Announcements: Please visit our website for the latest weekly newsletter
The Good News (stmarks-upland.org)

Offertory: Your contributions make a difference.

Thank you for your generosity. For Zelle, use the “stmarksupland” Zelle tag.



Offertory Interlude (10AM)

Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing

Paul Manz

Doxology & The Great Thanksgiving: Please rise in body or spirit.

All things come of thee, O God; **And of thine own have we given thee.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every-where to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. For you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sanctus: Said at 8AM; sung at 10AM (Hymnal S-127)

Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might;

Heaven and earth are full of your glory; Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord;

Hosanna in the highest.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all. Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world. On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior

Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to say:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Fraction Hymn: Spoken at 8AM; sung at 10AM (Hymnal S-154)

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

We ask the minister if we desire a gluten-free wafer. We receive the wine in a personal chalice. They are placed in the baskets by the pillars as we return to our seats. To receive a blessing, we cross our arms across our chest. It is the historic position of the church that communion is complete with just one of the elements. We let an usher know if we

wish communion to be brought to us. The Bread and the Cup are given with these words: The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.** The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

Communion Hymn (10AM)

Hymnal 324 *Let all mortal flesh keep silence* Picardy

Sending Forth of Eucharistic Visitors (10AM)

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood. We who are many share one bread, one cup, because we are one body in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The Prayer of St. Francis: Please rise in body or spirit.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

*Blessing: After the blessing the community responds: **Amen.***

Mission Hymn (10AM)

Hymnal 490	<i>I want to walk as a child of the light</i>	Houston
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*Dismissal: After the dismissal the community responds: **Thanks be to God.***

Postlude (10AM)

Epilogue Norman Gilbert

Please join us for fellowship and refreshment.

St. Mark's Episcopal Parish: A Community of Grace

Our Mission: To be a place where love and hope abound: we welcome everyone to our worship and communion, we help one another understand God and know Jesus, we nurture our community and the world, and we celebrate diversity and work for social justice.

Our Vision: We will be a faith community that spreads God's word, loves like Jesus, enjoys worshipping together, and helps our neighbors.

Vestry

Class of 2027:

Paul S, Sr Warden, Buildings & Grounds

Lisa D, Jr. Warden, Finance

Ed M, Membership

Class of 2028:

Dale B, Buildings & Grounds

Susan M, Christian Formation

Ginger R, Membership

EB S, Worship

Class of 2029:

Benjamin F, Outreach

Sylvia O, Communication

Maggie V, Fellowship

Marcia G, Treasurer

Carol M, Clerk

Staff and Clergy

Hazel R, Music Director & Organist

Rose B, Office Administrator

Rev. Julia W, Deacon

Rev. Sally M, Assisting Priest

Rev. Keith Y, Rector

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